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appears to be little or no doubt that if circumstances had been such as to admit of his [Lopez's] proceeding according to his original plan, the Cardenas Expedition might have succeeded in establishing the free republic of Cuba" is to assume a good deal. It is difficult to see how the results could have been other than they proved.

There is no evidence whatever to support the statement of outrageous and brutal scenes at the execution of Crittenden and his men (pp. 93-95), which were the gross fabrications of certain newspapers. See, for example, a despatch of the captain-general, Concha, to the minister of state, August 31, 1851, published in the *Boletin del Archivo Nacional*, September-October, 1905, p. 87, where these reports are contemptuously referred to, and the statement made that the execution was conducted with perfect order. The narrative abounds in indiscriminate statements, as, for instance, that "the only constitution it [Cuba] possessed for more than half a century was the Royal Order of May 28, 1825" (p. 26). The full-page likenesses are excellent, but it is to be regretted that Mr. Quisenberry gives no data regarding the authenticity of the Lopez portrait.

LUIS M. PÉREZ.

*The Brothers' War.* By JOHN C. REED. (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company. 1905. Pp. xviii, 456.)

THIS book deals with the causes of the Civil War, and not, as might be supposed, with the war itself. It is written by a Georgian who was a lawyer twenty-five years old when the war began, and who took a soldier's part throughout. He is thus by training and experience excellently fitted to deal with the subject; and, in the reviewer's opinion, he has dealt with it in a very admirable and useful way.

The first six chapters are devoted to the main causes of the strife, and one each to Calhoun, Webster, Toombs, and Davis, the foremost figures, in the author's opinion, in this stage of the struggle. There is an excellent analysis of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, a chapter on "The Curse and Blessing of Slavery", an illuminating discussion of the negro question, and a chapter to show that both sides were patriotically and morally right—a paradox very near the truth.

The author rightly assigns as the true cause of the war the nationalization of the North and of the South on the divergent lines laid out by two entirely different social organizations, the one demanding that its free labor system should not be hampered by slavery extension, the other that its system of slave labor should have what it regarded as adequate protection. This was the gist of the whole difficulty. He regards nationalization as having begun before there was any union of the colonies; and he considers that after the union was effected under the Constitution the national idea grew much faster in the North than in the South, and that in the latter it was in the direction, not of a nationalization of the Union, but of the slaveholding states. In this

Southern movement Calhoun was the great and dominating spirit whom all followed. He was, in the author's view, the foremost economist, constitutionalist, seer, and statesman of the day. In the great debate on the Force Bill in 1833 he gives Calhoun the palm over Webster, though he sets small store by a victory which could have no weight comparable with that of the unconscious nationalistic movements which were the decisive elements. While, however, placing Calhoun as a debater and Toombs as a lawyer before Webster, he has for Webster extreme admiration as an orator and as a national power; regarding as perhaps his greatest accomplishment the outcome of his stand taken, in opposition to Wirt's advice, in the *Gibbons v. Ogden* case of 1824, involving the question of exclusive navigation in the waters of a state—a stand which brought from the Supreme Court an opinion regarding the regulation of commerce by Congress which more than any other thing has helped to unify the country.

The author thinks that Toombs has not had his due, a judgment in which most will agree who have studied Toombs's speeches. For Davis he has admiration as an orator and statesman, but none for his military ability. All military students must agree with this latter judgment. He regards slavery as having been to the South a curse "of magnitude and weight incredible" (p. 342); a particular curse to the white, but in a way a blessing to the negro race in offering it opportunities for improvement such as it never had in Africa. Mr. Reed's analysis of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, while doing full justice to its power and influence, wholly denies its accuracy. As for the negro himself, that problem which the war did not solve, he is not hopeful, though he speaks in no unkindly spirit. He estimates that five per cent. of the colored people are rising, "most of whom are largely white" (p. 407). He recognizes "a world-wide difference" (p. 409) between this small upper class and the numerous lower class of negroes. "Listless, lethargic, careless, without initiative, without opportunity and coercion to make use of it, these multitudes of inveterate have-nothings are in a bottomless gulf of want, immorality, crime, and disease" (p. 411). This is a picture by one who speaks with no bitterness, but far otherwise, of the war and its results; for he is now an enthusiastic unionist and has accepted without reserve the result of the struggle. His book is evidently an earnest endeavor to present the truth; it is a valuable contribution to its subject, in both philosophy and fact, and it deserves a wide circulation.

F. E. CHADWICK.

*William T. Sherman.* By EDWARD ROBINS. [American Crisis Biographies.] (Philadelphia: George W. Jacobs and Company. 1905. Pp. 352.)

THIS volume belongs to a series of biographies having for their subjects men famous in the period of our Civil War. It is designed for popular reading, a somewhat slight work but at the same time unpreten-